

1 - Mr. Held
1 - Mr. Adams

The Attorney General

May 10, 1977

Director, FBI

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

1 - Mr. Fehl
1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. Lawn
1 - Mr. Mintz
1 - Mr. Daly
1 - Mr. Cochran

Reference is made to my most recent letter dated April 28, 1977, captioned as above, which reiterated this Bureau's inability to obtain certain test bullets from the National Archives for ballistics comparison. The Archivist of the United States has denied this access to the FBI at the request of HSCA.

Enclosed is a copy of the most recent letter of Dr. James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, dated May 4, 1977, with enclosures, which sets out the conditions under which this Bureau may gain access to the test bullets, originally turned over to the Archives by the FBI in 1964.

Also enclosed is a copy of this Bureau's acknowledgement of that letter dated May 10, 1977.

The FBI cannot agree to this compromise which directly impugnes the integrity of this Bureau and attacks the validity and trustworthiness of our Laboratory examination, nor can this Bureau comprehend how such encroachment by the HSCA on an investigative matter within the criminal jurisdiction of the FBI is a proper legislative function.

Since the impasse between the HSCA, the Archivist, and the FBI has continued to remain unresolved for the past 5 months, the FBI foresees no other alternative in this matter but to return the bullet fragment to the finder in Dallas as he has requested.

MAILED 3
MAY 11 1977
FBI

Enclosures (4)

1 - The Deputy Attorney General (Enclosures 4)

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division (Enclosures 4)
ATTENTION: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs (Encs. 4)

UCL (15) SEE NOTE PAGE 2

APPROVED: [Signature]

Director
Asst. Dir.
Dep. AD Adm.
Dep. AD Inv.

Adm. Serv.
Crim. Inv.
Fin. & Pers.
Ident.
Intell.
Laboratory
Legal Coun.
Plan. & Insp.
Rec. Mgmt.
Spec. Inv.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Public Affs.

The Attorney General

NOTE: See memorandum, Peelman to Feh1, dated 5/9/77,
captioned "House Select Committee on Assassinations
(HSCA)"; JCL:bam.